

One Pager to Accompany Earmark Reform Concurrent Resolution

Earmark Reform Joint Select Committee:

- Establishes a Joint Select Committee (JSC) on Earmark Reform.
- The JSC will be composed of 16 total members, evenly split between the House and Senate majority and minority parties.

Study by the Earmark Reform Joint Select Committee:

- Orders the JSC to make a full study of earmarks.
- Recognizing that earmarking is practiced by both the Congress and the Administration, the study will cover the House, the Senate and the Executive Branch.
- Further recognizing that earmarking is practiced by a variety of Congressional committees, the study will cover earmarking in authorizing, appropriation, tax and tariff measures.
- The JSC will hold at least five public hearings while they conduct the study. At those hearings, earmark proponents and opponents will be able to present evidence in support of their position.
- Several suggestions for study by the JSC are listed in the Concurrent Resolution, but that list is not an exclusive one. The intent is for the study to be as comprehensive as possible. The listed suggestions include:
 - Existing earmark disclosure requirements and the existing definitions of earmarks;
 - Earmark transparency at all levels of the legislative process;
 - Evaluating requirements that earmarks not be placed in any bill after initial committee consideration;
 - Evaluating requirements that Members be permitted to remove earmarks throughout the legislative process;
 - Evaluating requirements that earmarks be certified by bill sponsors and committee leadership;
 - Evaluating the Administration's earmark practices in their annual budget submissions;
 - Evaluating earmarking in amendments; and
 - Considering whether new categories for earmarks should be established, possibly to include projects of national scope, military projects and local/provincial projects.

Report by the Earmark Reform Joint Select Committee:

- The JSC will report its findings back to the House and Senate.

Moratorium on Consideration of Earmarks:

- While the JSC is conducting its work, no earmarks will be considered by either the House or Senate.